

## RULES OF THE ROAD

Without traffic laws, rules, and controls, travel by a motor vehicle would be unsafe and impractical. Drivers are tested and licensed to operate motor vehicles in an effort to make travel safe for everyone.

This section provides you with information on:

- Control of Traffic at Intersections
  - Traffic Signals
  - Traffic Signs
  - Right-of-Way
- Parking
- Use of Lanes
  - Through Driving
  - Passing
  - Laws for Turning

## CONTROL OF TRAFFIC AT INTERSECTIONS

An intersection is any place where two roads meet. At an intersection there may be traffic signals, signs, or right-of-way rules to control traffic.

## TRAFFIC SIGNALS

The three main colors that guide traffic are:

**RED** means STOP

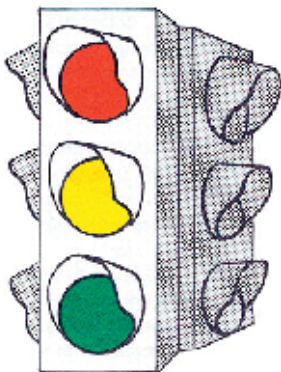
**YELLOW** means WARNING

**GREEN** means GO, if safe

**RED:** A red light means “stop” behind a crosswalk or stop line until the green light appears. You may turn right after stopping if there is no approaching traffic, unless a sign is posted prohibiting such right turns. Even though the light is red, a turn is permitted from a one-way street into the nearest lane of another one-way street running in the direction of that turn.

**YELLOW:** A yellow light means the traffic signal is about to turn red. Stop if you can do so safely. A vehicle may clear an intersection on a red light, if the vehicle entered the intersection while the signal was yellow; but it is against the law to enter an intersection after the light turns red.

**GREEN:** If the way is clear, after yielding the right-of-way to other vehicles and pedestrians lawfully within the intersection, you may go straight or turn left or right, unless such turns are prohibited. Left turns on green must yield to through traffic coming from the opposite direction.



## FLASHING LIGHTS

A flashing yellow light means you must slow down and watch for others. It is found at intersections, construction areas, and on some vehicles, like tow trucks.



*A flashing red light means you must come to a full stop and proceed only when the way is clear.*



*Two flashing red lights mark a railroad crossing. Stop and proceed only after the lights stop flashing and you determine no train is approaching. The familiar crossbuck sign near the tracks is a regulatory sign that means the same as a yield sign.*



## LIGHTED ARROWS

Some intersection traffic lights have lighted arrows in addition to the regular lights.

A green arrow means you may go in the direction of the arrow, if you are in the proper lane.

A flashing yellow arrow means you may proceed with caution in the direction of the arrow.

A green arrow pointed upward means you may go “straight ahead.”

A red arrow means no turning in the direction of the arrow, until it turns green.



When there is more than one traffic light, obey the one that is over your lane.

## URNS ON RED LIGHTS

**RIGHT TURNS:** If not prohibited by signs, and you are in the proper lane, you must first STOP, and then turn right when the way is clear of vehicle or pedestrian traffic.

**LEFT TURNS:** Left turns on Red are permitted ONLY when turning from a one-way street onto a one-way street. You must first stop then turn left when the way is clear of vehicle or pedestrian traffic.

## TRAFFIC SIGNS



A stop sign is red with white letters and has eight sides. It means you must come to a *complete* stop in a safe position with regard to other traffic, then proceed when the way is clear. Stop at the pedestrian crossing area or stop line, if there is one; otherwise stop before moving into the intersection. When visibility is obstructed, a second stop may be necessary before entering the intersection.



A yield sign is shaped like a triangle and is red and white. It means you should slow down and yield to traffic on the road you are entering or crossing.

## MINOR INTERSECTIONS

Exit ramps and the beginning of one-way streets are also intersections and often have these signs:



This sign tells you that you are going in wrong direction.



This sign tells you that you cannot enter a street or roadway.



A red slash inside a red circle means that you cannot do something. For example, this sign means that you cannot legally or safely turn in the direction the arrow is pointing.



This sign means you cannot make a “U” turn.

Upon approaching an intersection where a police officer is directing traffic, do what the officer instructs you to do regardless of traffic-control devices or signals.

## RIGHT-OF-WAY LAWS

Where there are no signs, symbols, or police to tell you what to do, there are special right-of-way laws to follow.

By law, drivers must yield to pedestrians under the following conditions:

- When pedestrians are in a crosswalk and there is no traffic light (the crosswalk does not have to be marked).
- When turning a corner and pedestrians are crossing with the light.
- In any situation that could threaten the pedestrian's safety.

Other special right-of-way laws to follow are:

- Drivers turning left must yield to oncoming vehicles that are going straight or turning right.
- Drivers entering a traffic circle or roundabout must yield right-of-way to drivers already in the circle.
- Drivers on a minor road must yield to drivers on a main road.
- At a 4-way, 3-way, or 2-way stop, the driver reaching the intersection and stopping first should go first.
- When two cars reach an uncontrolled intersection at the same time, the car on the right should have the right-of-way.

## USE OF LANES

Smooth driving allows you to keep more distance between yourself and other drivers and also helps improve fuel economy.

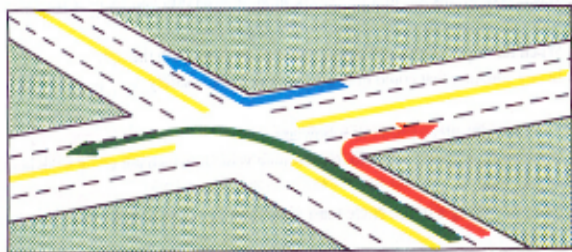
If there are three or more lanes in one direction, the middle lane or lanes are for through traffic. The left lane is for drivers who want to pass or turn left. The right lane is used by drivers who want to go slower or who are entering or turning right. If a road has only two lanes in one direction, the right lane generally has the smoothest traffic flow, with the left lane being reserved for the passing of other vehicles. **Remaining in the left lane on a limited access highway is illegal.**

## LANES FOR PASSING

In general, you should pass on the left. Passing on the right can be dangerous, since other drivers do not expect it. Vehicles on the right side are also more difficult to see. The operator of a vehicle may overtake and pass another vehicle upon the right only under conditions permitting such movements safely. Such movement shall not be made by driving off the roadway, unless the vehicle being passed comes to a complete stop and such movement may be made safely.

## LANES FOR TURNING

When turning into another street, turn into the lane nearest to you. If you are turning left from a street with two or more lanes, turn from the lane nearest the center line. If you are turning right, turn from the lane nearest the curb.



If you need to change to another lane, do so only after you have finished your turn and when the traffic is clear.

If you have already started through an intersection when the light changes, keep going. If you have started to make a turn, follow through. *Last-second changes can cause collisions.*

If you miss your turn, go on to the next intersection and work your way back to where you want to go.

## SIGNS AND ROAD MARKINGS

Many streets have signs that say what each of the lanes are to be used for: (a) vehicles in the left lane must turn left, (b) vehicles in the left lane may turn left or go straight, (c) vehicles in the center lane must go straight, (d) vehicles in the right lane may go straight or turn right, (e) vehicles in right lane must turn right. Similar markings are often painted on the highway.



a



b



c



d



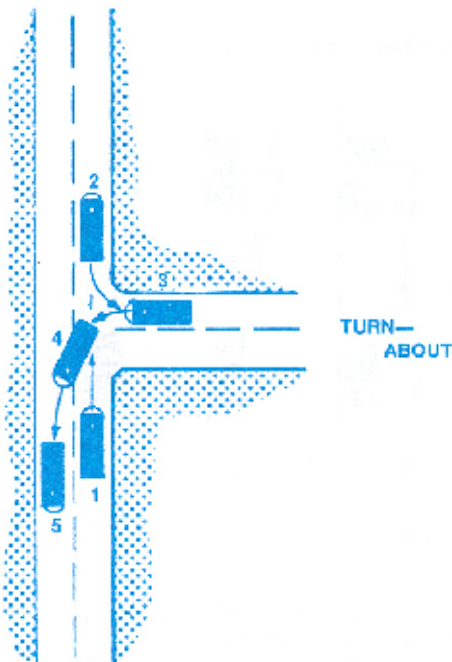
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## TURNABOUT

A turnabout is a legal way to turn the vehicle around. It is also sometimes called a three-point turn. The steps of a turnabout are as follows:

- Make sure your car can be seen for 500 feet in either direction.
- Stop just beyond a side street or driveway on the right.
- Check your rearview mirror to make sure no one is approaching from behind you.
- Signal before backing into the street.
- Back into the right lane, then signal before pulling back out when safe to do so.

You should never make a “U” turn or a turnabout on any curve or near the top of a hill.



## ROUNDBABOUTS AND TRAFFIC CIRCLES

A **traffic circle** is a circular one-way road at an intersection of several roads that facilitate an uninterrupted flow of traffic. In order to properly maneuver around the circle, drive slowly to the right of the circle through the intersection.



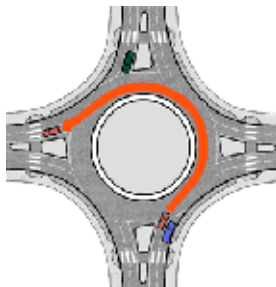
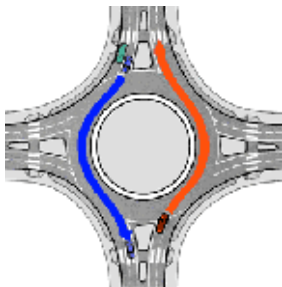
Traffic Circle Warning Sign



Traffic Circle Diagram

A **roundabout** is similar to a traffic circle. However, a roundabout includes yield signs at all approaches to the intersection, and motorists actually travel around the circle until they reach their exit. A roundabout is typically bigger than a traffic circle. The following instructions should be followed when using a roundabout:

- When approaching the roundabout, reduce your speed and always keep to the right of the splitter island on the approach to the roundabout.
- When entering the roundabout, yield to traffic circulating from the left. Enter the roundabout when clear.
- Within the roundabout, do not stop except to avoid a collision. Keep to the right of the central island and travel in a counterclockwise direction.
- When exiting the roundabout, indicate your exit by using the right turn signal.

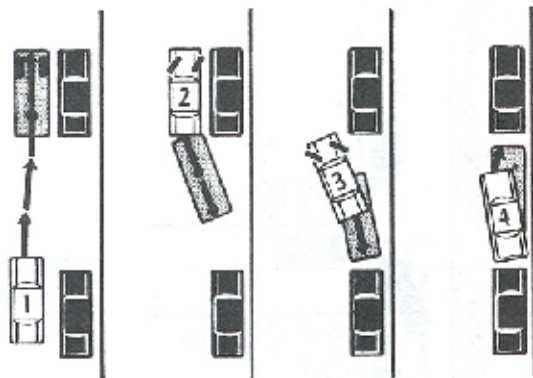


## PARKING

Make sure you do not get in the way of traffic when you park on a public road.

- Move as far away from traffic as possible. If there is a roadside shoulder, pull as far onto it as you can. If there is a curb, park as close to it as you can.
- If you are parked parallel on the right-hand side of the street, give a left turn signal and look over your left shoulder before pulling out into traffic. If you are parked parallel on the left-hand side of a one-way street, give a right turn signal and look over your right shoulder before moving into traffic.

## STEPS IN PARALLEL PARKING



1

Stop smoothly two to three feet away from the car you will be parking behind, and give your turn signal for the direction you will be backing.

2

Turn the steering wheel sharply right and back slowly toward the center of the car behind you.

3

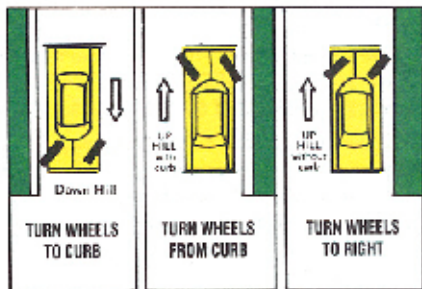
When clear of the car ahead, turn wheels sharp left, and back slowly to the car behind.

4

Turn the wheel sharp right and pull toward the curb in the center of the parking space.

- Make sure your vehicle cannot move. Set your parking brake and shift to “park” (or reverse in a manual shift car).
- If you are parked on a hill, turn your wheels so that your vehicle will touch the curb if the vehicle begins moving. If there is no curb, turn the wheels so the vehicle will go off the road should it roll.
- It is safest to get out of your vehicle on the curb side. If you have to use the street side, check traffic before getting out.





- The law requires you to turn off the engine and remove the key when you leave a vehicle. Always lock your vehicle when leaving it, even if you are only going to be away for a short period of time.

### HANDICAPPED PARKING

- **Unauthorized parking in designated handicapped parking areas is unlawful and is punishable by fine.** Persons requiring or needing handicapped parking privileges should apply to the County Clerk's Office for special decals or plates.



Parking only for vehicles displaying an official permit and transporting a disabled person.

### SEEING WELL

Most of what you do in driving is a reaction to what you see. To be a good driver, you need to see well.

Seeing well means:

- Knowing Where to Look
  - Looking ahead
  - Taking in the whole scene
  - Looking to the side
  - Looking behind
  - Checking the speedometer
  - Backing
- Having a Clear View
  - Having clean windows and mirrors
  - Adjusting your seat, safety belts, and mirrors
  - Seeing well at night
  - Wearing corrective lenses

## LOOKING AHEAD

In order to avoid last-second moves, **a driver needs to look far enough ahead to see things early.** One of the most common mistakes drivers make is looking directly in front of the vehicle instead of far enough ahead.

Good drivers focus their eyes at least 10 to 15 seconds ahead. To determine how far a ten-second interval for a certain speed is, select a marker such as a sign, a bridge, or tree, and count “one-thousand one, one-thousand two,” etc. When you reach “one-thousand ten,” you have driven for 10 seconds.

## TAKING IN THE WHOLE SCENE

Looking ahead does not mean looking at the middle of the road. It means taking in the entire scene, the sides of the road as well. “Scanning” the roadside helps you to see:

- Vehicles and people that may be in the road by the time you reach them.
- Signs warning of conditions ahead.
- Signs giving you information about places ahead and how to reach them.

Being alert and always looking far ahead reduces your chances of having a collision and increases the time you will have for decision-making and reactions.

## LOOKING TO THE SIDE

Any time you come to a place where others may cross or enter your path, you should look to the sides to make sure it is safe to proceed. These places include intersections, crosswalks, railroad crossings, parking lots, school areas, parks, playgrounds, shopping centers, etc.

## INTERSECTIONS

Following are some rules for any time you approach an intersection:

- Look both ways.
  - Look to the left first, since traffic coming from the left is close to you; then look to the right.
  - Take one more look to the left before you pull out, just in case there is something you did not see the first time.
- Do not rely on traffic signals.
  - At an intersection, look both ways, even if other traffic has a red light or a stop sign. Someone may disobey either one.
- Make sure you have a good view.
  - If your view of a cross street is blocked by a building or a row of parked vehicles, edge forward slowly until you can see.
  - If traffic in one lane is blocking your view of another lane, wait until it clears. If you try to look by placing the front of your vehicle into the other lane, you may get hit.

## CROSSWALKS

Crosswalks are special areas set aside for people to cross the street. Usually they are marked with yellow or white lines and have fluorescent yellow-green warning signs.



**PEDESTRIAN  
CROSSING**



**SCHOOL  
CROSSING**

Most crosswalks are located at intersections; however, some are located in the middle of the block, especially in cities and towns. In turning a corner, watch for people who are about to cross the street you are turning in to. Remember, if you have a green light, the light is also green for them.

When traffic-control signals are not in place or in operation, the operator of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger.

Every pedestrian crossing a roadway at a point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

**The law requires drivers to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk.**

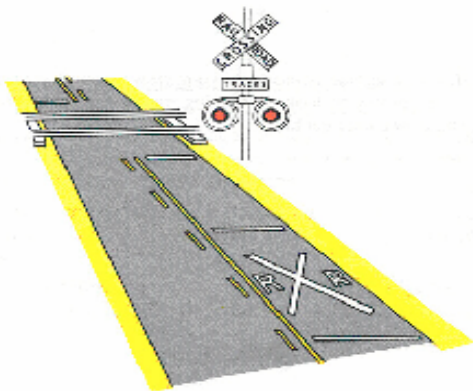
## RAILROAD CROSSINGS

Approach a railroad crossing with caution. You are far more likely to die in a collision between a motor vehicle and a train than you are in any other type of vehicular collision.

The familiar round, yellow sign with the black “RR” and/or “RR” painted on the pavement are advance-warning signs indicating the road crosses railroad tracks ahead. The crossbuck sign at the crossing means the driver must yield to oncoming trains.



At crossings marked with automatic flasher units or automatic crossing gates, drivers must stop if the lights are flashing or the gates are lowered, and remain stopped until the lights stop flashing and the gates are raised. At crossings, which have the standard octagonal red and white stop sign, drivers must stop and proceed only when they determine no train is approaching.



Look both ways as you approach a railroad crossing. You must yield the right-of-way to the train or stop if the lights are flashing or the gate is lowered. It is your responsibility to determine if it is safe to cross the tracks, even if the lights are not flashing. The signal may not be working.

If you do get boxed in or stalled on a crossing, abandon your car immediately and run away from the track in the direction the train is coming, in order to avoid being hit by flying debris. Once you are at a safe distance, call the 800 number posted on or near the crossbuck, or call 911, to alert the dispatcher of your stalled vehicle. Do not attempt to restart your vehicle until a dispatcher indicates it is safe and no trains are approaching.

The stopping distance for an average freight train at 55 miles per hour may be a mile or more. Trains cannot stop quickly; cars can.

If you are stopped at a railroad crossing where there is more than one track, do not start up as soon as the train passes. Wait until you have a clear view in both directions before you start across. A second train could be coming from the other direction. Never attempt to cross a railroad crossing until there is ample space to get completely across and off the tracks. Stopping on a railroad crossing is very dangerous.

*School buses and tank trucks carrying flammable liquids must stop at railroad crossings.*

Expect a train when approaching any railroad track.

**Crossing a track after the warning lights are flashing or the crossing gates are down is against the law, and you could be cited.**

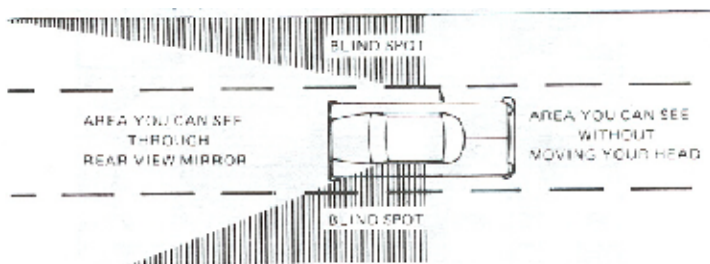
## OBSERVING TO THE REAR

It is not always easy to maintain a safe distance behind your vehicle. However, checking traffic behind you several times a minute will help you gain a complete picture of the traffic situation. If someone is following too closely or coming up behind you too fast, you will have time to react accordingly.

## CHANGING LANES

**Some important things to do when you intend to change lanes are:**

- Make sure, by glancing in your rearview and sideview mirrors, that no one is preparing to pass you. Give a proper turn signal showing your intentions.
- Glance over your shoulder to check for traffic near the left or right rear corners of your vehicle. These areas are called **“blind spots”** because you cannot see them through your mirrors.



- Also, glance in your left sideview mirror when you are preparing to change lanes or pull onto the roadway. This will allow you to keep an eye on traffic behind and ahead of you at the same time. Check over your left shoulder just before you change lanes. To avoid a collision on a multi-lane road, check the other lanes to see if another driver plans to move into the same spot you do.
- Try to avoid slowing down suddenly. If you are forced to slow quickly, check behind you to see if other drivers are following close to you. By doing this, you may prevent a rear-end collision.

## KEEPING YOUR CAR WHERE IT CAN BE SEEN

Try to keep your vehicle where it can be seen. You cannot always be sure other drivers will see you, but you can avoid putting your vehicle where they cannot see it. One common mistake is driving in another driver's blind spot.

- Try to avoid driving on either side slightly to the rear of another vehicle. Either speed up or drop back, but do not remain in another driver's blind spot.
- When passing another vehicle, pass through the other driver's blind spot as quickly as you can. The longer you stay there, the longer you are in danger.

## CHECKING THE SPEEDOMETER

Glance at the speedometer about once a minute to ensure you are driving at a safe and legal speed. This should become a habit.

## BACKING

Backing requires extra caution because it is difficult to see behind your vehicle.

Here are some rules you should follow whenever you have to back your vehicle.

- Check behind your vehicle before you get in. Children or small objects are difficult to see from the driver's seat.



- When backing straight to the rear or to the right, look over your right shoulder directly through the rear window. When backing to your left, look over your left shoulder. Do not depend on your mirrors.
- Back slowly. Your vehicle is more difficult to control when you are backing. Continue looking back until you come to a complete stop.

Whenever possible, avoid backing into traffic; or, if possible, use a person outside the car to help you back.

If you have passed your exit on an interstate or freeway, never back up or try to turn around. Go on to the next exit to turn off.

## HAVING CLEAN WINDOWS AND MIRRORS

It is important that you be able to see clearly through the windows, windshield, and mirrors.

- Keep the windshield clean, because bright sun or headlights on a dirty windshield decreases vision.
- Keep your windshield washer container full. During winter, the windshield washer container should have sufficient windshield solvent to prevent freezing.
- Smoking while driving causes film to build up on the glass inside your vehicle. Clean the inside of your windows frequently, especially if you smoke.
- Remove snow, ice, or frost from all windows before you start to drive.
- Do not hang anything from your rearview mirror or clutter up the windshield or rear window with decals. Besides blocking vision, they are a violation of the law.
- Window tinting. Excessive dark tinting is not allowed. (See page 7.)

## **ADJUSTING YOUR SEAT, SAFETY BELTS, AND MIRRORS**

- Adjust your seat, rearview mirror, and side mirror before you start to drive.
- Adjust your seat so that you can see the pavement 12 to 15 feet in front of the vehicle. Your chest should be located 10 to 12 inches from the center of the steering column, and your shoulders should be no lower than the top of steering wheel. Sliding the seat forward will raise it. Do not adjust the seat while the vehicle is in motion. If it is still too low, use a seat cushion. Do not move the seat so far forward that you cannot easily steer. Adjust your seat belt and shoulder strap so they fit snugly and properly.
- To guard against glare from the headlights of a vehicle behind, use a day-night mirror. Adjust it before you drive.

## **SEEING WELL AT NIGHT**

It is more difficult to see at night than during the day. You can see better at night by doing the following:

- Use your high beams whenever there are no oncoming vehicles, except when fog or other inclement weather would make low beams more appropriate.
- Properly adjusted high beams let you see twice as far as low beams. It is very important to use them on unfamiliar roads, in construction areas, or where there may be people along the side of the road.
- Dim your lights whenever you come within 500 feet of an oncoming vehicle and when you are following another vehicle within 200 feet.
- Slow down and use low beams in fog, snow, or heavy rain. The light from high beams will reflect back and cause glare during these conditions.

If the lights of an oncoming vehicle remain on high beam, dim your lights and look toward the right side of the road. This will keep you from being blinded by the oncoming vehicle's headlights.

Do not try to "get back" at the other driver by keeping your bright lights on. If you do, both of you may be blinded.

## **WEARING CORRECTIVE LENSES**

If you are restricted to wearing corrective lenses, remember the following:

- Always wear your corrective lenses when you drive. If you are not wearing them and you happen to be stopped by a police officer, you may be issued a citation.
- Avoid using dark glasses or tinted contact lenses at night. They cut down the light and make it more difficult to see.

## COMMUNICATING TO OTHER DRIVERS

Collisions often happen because a driver does not see another vehicle, or when a driver does something unexpected by other drivers. It is important that drivers let others know where they are and what they plan to do.

### Communicating Means:

- Letting others know where you are by:
  - Using Your Lights.
  - Using Your Horn.
  - Putting Your Vehicle Where It Can Be Seen.
  - Using Emergency Signals.
- Letting others know what you plan to do by:
  - Signaling a change of direction.
  - Signaling when slowing or stopping.

## USING YOUR HEADLIGHTS

Headlights help you see at night and help others see you at night and during the daytime.

- On rainy, snowy, or foggy days, it is sometimes difficult for other drivers to see your vehicle. On cloudy days, vehicles seem to blend into surroundings. In these conditions, **even during daytime**, low beam headlights make your vehicle easier to see.
- Turn on your headlights at sunset. If you turn them on early, you will help other drivers see you and possibly avoid a collision.
- Whenever you are driving and lights are necessary, use your headlights. Parking lights are for parking only.

**The best rule to remember is to turn your headlights on whenever you have trouble seeing other vehicles. If you have trouble seeing them, chances are they are having trouble seeing you.**

## USING YOUR HORN

People cannot see you unless they are looking your way. Your horn may get their attention. Use it whenever it will help prevent a collision. Give your horn a gentle tap well in advance:

- When passing another driver and it appears that he might pull in front of you.
- When approaching a driver who is not paying attention or may have trouble seeing you.
- When coming to a place where you cannot see what is ahead (for example, a steep hill or a sharp curve).

If you feel there is a real danger, sound a SHARP BLAST on your horn.



## USING EMERGENCY SIGNALS

When your vehicle breaks down on the highway, make sure other drivers can see it. Collisions often occur because a driver does not see a stalled vehicle.

If you have mechanical trouble and have to stop, follow these rules:

- Pull completely off the road, to the right if possible.
- If you cannot get completely off the roadway, try to stop where your vehicle can be seen from a distance. Do not stop just over a hill or just around a curve.
- Turn on your emergency flashers to warn other drivers. If your vehicle does not have flashers, then turn signals may be used instead.
- Lift the hood to show others you need assistance.
- Give other drivers plenty of warning. If you have flares, put them 200 or 300 feet behind the vehicle. This allows other drivers to change lanes, if necessary.
- If you do not have emergency flares, stand off the roadway and wave traffic around your vehicle. Use a white cloth flag or a piece of clothing.
- Call for assistance for your stalled vehicle, if you can.

## SIGNALING WHEN YOU CHANGE DIRECTIONS

For the benefit of other drivers, you should always signal when you change directions. This gives them time to react safely to your changes.

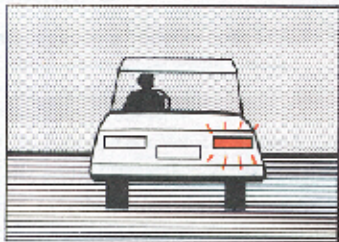
You shall use your turn signals before you:

- Parallel Park.
- Make a turnabout (turnaround).
- Change lanes or pass another vehicle.
- Turn at an intersection.
- Enter or leave a freeway or interstate highway.
- Pull away from the curb.
- Pull over to the side of the road.

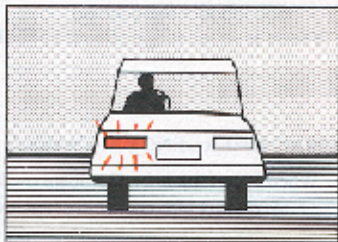
If you do not signal, other drivers will not know what you plan to do. They may start to do something that will lead to a collision. Here are some important rules about signaling direction changes:

- Signal every time you change direction, even when you do not see anyone else around. The vehicle you do not see is the most dangerous. Check your blind spots by looking over your shoulder.

**REMEMBER YOU DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY JUST BY TURNING ON YOUR TURN SIGNALS.**



**Right Turn**



**Left Turn**

- If you plan to turn at an intersection, signal 100 feet before the turn.
- If you plan to turn beyond an intersection, signal just after you pass through the intersection. If you signal earlier, another driver may think you are turning at the intersection.
- After you have made a turn or lane change, turn your signal off. An inappropriate turn signal is unsafe and annoying.
- Be cautious of improper signals by other drivers.
- If the driver in front of you is signaling for a turn, do not signal unless you are also going to turn there. Tap your brake to warn others that you are slowing down. Signaling a turn for someone else is confusing to others and may cause a collision. *Signal only for the maneuvers you intend to make.*
- Your car must have mechanical signals. Hand signals cannot be used.

**REMEMBER to watch for hand signals from farm, construction, and animal-drawn vehicles which do not have mechanical signals.**

### **SIGNALING WHEN YOU SLOW DOWN OR STOP UNEXPECTEDLY**

Your brake lights let people know that you are slowing down, but they do not show how much. If you are going to stop or slow down at a place where another driver does not expect it, tap your brake pedal as a warning.



## ADJUSTING SPEED

Posted speed limits do not tell you at what speed to drive. They only tell you what the maximum legal speed is under ideal conditions. By law, you have to go slower if conditions make the posted speed limit unsafe.

Speed should be adjusted to varying road conditions and situations. Speed adjustment as it relates to the following topics is discussed below:

- Kentucky speed limits.
- The condition of the road.
- Visibility.
- Traffic conditions.

## KENTUCKY SPEED LIMITS

When the speed limit is not posted, these are the limits on Kentucky roads.

### 15 MILES PER HOUR

- Speed limit on off-street parking facilities.

### 35 MILES PER HOUR

- All motor vehicles in residential districts.
- As you enter the limits of most towns.

### 55 MILES PER HOUR

- Open highways.
- Urban interstate and limited-access highways.

### 65 MILES PER HOUR

- Rural interstate and limited-access highways.

## ADJUSTING TO ROAD CONDITIONS

The only contact your vehicle has with the road is through the tires. Each of the tires has approximately six square inches of rubber on the surface of the road. The grip of the tires depends on the condition of the road and of the tires. This grip is reduced when driving on curving roads, slippery roads, and anytime the road surface is wet.

## CURVES

Before you reach a curve, speed must be adjusted to keep the vehicle safely on the road. If the curve is sharp and you are going too fast, the tires cannot grip the road and your vehicle will skid. An advisory speed sign will give you a recommended safe speed.



Reduce your speed before you enter the curve so you do not have to brake in the curve. Braking in a curve can cause a skid.